U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of TAMARA SCHIMKE <u>and</u> DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL, Minneapolis, MN

Docket No. 01-260; Submitted on the Record; Issued August 16, 2001

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before DAVID S. GERSON, WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, MICHAEL E. GROOM

The issue is whether appellant developed a neurological disorder or any other medical condition as a result of exposure to hazardous fumes in the performance of duty.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions of the parties on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs' hearing representative, dated and finalized on October 18, 2000, is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the hearing representative.¹

Accordingly, the decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated and finalized on October 18, 2000 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, DC August 16, 2001

> David S. Gerson Member

Willie T.C. Thomas Member

Michael E. Groom Alternate Member

¹ The Board agrees that appellant has failed to submit a rationalized medical opinion to establish that her medical problems are causally related to factors of her federal employment. *See generally Ronald C. Hand*, 49 ECAB 113 (1997).